

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his indication that claims 5-7, 21, 23-26, 28, 30-32, 34-36, 39, 41-44, 46, 48-50, 55-57, 71, 73-76 and 90 would be allowable if rewritten to incorporate the limitations of their base and any intervening claims.

In response, claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 1 and 4 from which it depended, claim 7 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 1 from which it depended; claim 21 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 19 from which it depended; claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 19 and 22 from which it depended; claim 28 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 19 and 22 from which it depended; claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 19 and 29 from which it depended; claim 32 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 19 from which it depended; claim 34 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 2 and 33 from which it depended; claim 36 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 2 from which it depended; claim 39 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 37 from which it depended; claim 41 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 37 and 40 from which it depended; claim 46 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 37 and 40 from which it depended; claim 48 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 37 and 47 from which it depended; claim 50 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 37 from which it depended; claim 55 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 51 and 54 from which it depended; claim 57 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claim 1 from which it depended; claim 71 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims

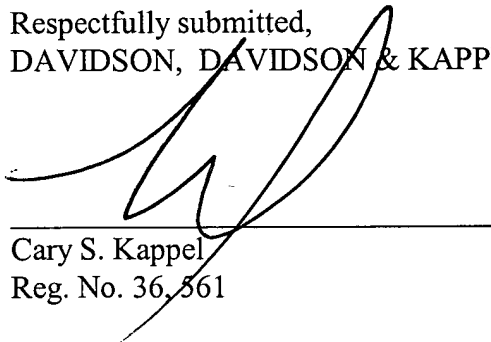
69 and 70 from which it depended; claim 73 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 69 and 72 from which it depended; claim 90 has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of claims 87 and 88 from which it depended.

Claims 1-4, 19-20, 29, 33, 37-38, 47, 51-52, 53-54, 69-70, and 77-89 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 22 and 27 have been amended to depend from claim 21, rather than cancelled claim 19. Claims 40 and 45 have been amended to depend from claim 39, rather than cancelled claim 37. Claim 72 has been amended to depend from claim 71, rather than cancelled claim 69.

Claims 6, 23, 25, 26, 31, 35, 42-44, 49, 56, and 74-76 have not been amended as they already depend from claims which are otherwise allowable in view of the amendments described above.

As such, applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 5-7, 21-28, 30-32, 34-36, 39-44, 46, 48-50, 55-57, 71-76, and 90 are in condition for allowance. Applicants therefore submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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